

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 2

THE WASHINGTON POST
7 March 1978

Colby Proposes Sharp Limits On the Prosecution of Leaks

*media
SSC*

Associated Press

Former CIA Director William Colby proposed yesterday sharp limits on the prosecution of government officials who leak classified information to the press.

Colby said criminal charges should be brought only if public disclosure of classified information clearly exposes and endangers sensitive intelligence sources or methods.

He said only those government officials who pledged not to reveal intelligence sources and methods should be prosecuted if they are known to be

the source when those kinds of secrets are made public.

Journalists and others who have not taken such a pledge should be exempt from prosecution and court subpoena Colby said.

He testified before a Senate intelligence subcommittee considering new legislation to protect government secrets.

After hearing Colby's testimony, the subcommittee chairman, Sen. Joseph Biden (D-Del.) said, "You almost sound like a civil libertarian."

Now a partner in a Washington law firm, Colby left the Central Intelligence Agency in January 1976.

W.C.